implement the judgement of the Supreme Court, then they will be forced to close down the Handloom Corporation. This is a lame excuse. If anybody is unable to pay the minimum wages, he has no right to run any factory. This is how law of the land is! So, if they are not paid the minimum wages, action should be taken against the defaulting officers and the weavers should be given one lakh rupees each as compensation before rendering them jobless by closing down the Handloom Corporation. Thus they will become selfreliant. I urge upon the Central Government to pay attention towards this immediately.

SHRI PARASRAM MEGHWAL (Jalore) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, through you I want to draw attention of the Government towards the Jalore and Sirohi districts of my constituency where fluoride is very much in excess in the water and that is why people of those villages are becoming hunch backed. They are unable to work. They have become lazier. I demand the Government that safe drinking water be provided there so that they are not forced to drink fluoride contaminated water and they are able to become physically fit.

Mr. Deputy .Speaker Sir, our Prime Minister has always been making announcements that safe drinking water will be made available to every citizen of the country. I, therefore, urge the Government through you that safe drinking water may be provided there at the earliest.

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir, through you I want to draw the attention of the Government on an important issue. There is an illegal slaughter house in my constituency and cows, buffalos, bulls and even calves are being slaughtered there. Local people including myself has raised voice in this regard many times but all in vain and now I myself conducted raid with the District Magistrate and Senior Superintendent of Police and found all the allegations levelled against them correct and the said slaughter House was closed down by order issued by the Distirct Magistrate. Near that illegal slaugther House was that the pond which was located since long has been contaminated by the animal blood. The environment of the entire city has been polluted to the extent that nobody can live there. If you travel to Khurja from Delhi there will be no need at all to ask about Khurja. Where you start feeling foul smell you can guess that you have approached the city.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the people operating the slaughter house have been protected by anti social elements. I conducted raid on the said slaughter house with the District Megistrate and though all our allegations were found correct and the said slaughter house has been closed down, yet some persons put the pressure on the District Magistrate and the administration in such a manner that an enquiry has been ordered against the S.H.O. who executed the orders of the Distirct Magistrate and the Senior Superintendent of Police promptly to close down the above slaughter house and efforts are also being made to transfer him from there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the District Magistrate issued a licence on 24th April, 1996 for slaughtering bulls in the city though communal riots have erupted in the Khurja town five times so far. Such license will encourage slaughter of cows as well because the tissues of bull and cow meat are same whereas tissue of buffalow meat is different. It can easily be ascertained by examining the meat that whether it is of a cow or buffalow, but now licence has been issued to slaughter the bulls it will be difficult to ascertain differentiate between the meat of a Bull or a Cow and slaughtering of Cow will start there under this pretext.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, through you I demand from the Central Government that the the officers who had executed their duties properly to closedown the above slaughter house, they should not be transferred from there and no action should be taken against them and such slaughter houses operating all over the country should be closed down. Sir, through you I wanted to raise this issue only.

[English]

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways has assured the House during his Budget Speech that work about the new survey line Kittur-Bailhongal-Sogal-Yellammagudda-Dharwar will take place. Though the hon. Minister has assured the House, the survey work has not yet started.

Kittur is a historical place. The Fort of Kittur Rani Chennamma who fought against the British for Independence, is located there. Bailhongal is a business centre. Sogal and Yellammagudda are tourist and pilgrimage centres, respectively. By taking up this new survey line, the distance between Hubli and Dharwar will be less than 80 kilometres.

Hence, as per the assurance given by the hon. Minister of Railways, the new survey line work should be taken up immediately.

[Translation]

SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' (East Delhi) : Sir, there are fifty five thousand police personnel and there is growing discontent among them, because they are not being paid ration money, whereas ration money is paid to the police personnel in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana. Delhi is the capital of the Country, all Ambassies are located here, all V.I.P's are residing here, security arrangements are to be made for them and the personnel of Delhi Police have to do their duties ranging from eighteen to twenty hours at a stretch. Not only this but gross injustice is also being meted out to them. They were being paid exgratia payment for last several years. They were being paid one months pay in a year but the said exgratia payment has not been given to

them this year due to which there is a growing discount among them. Sir, through you I want to draw attention of the hon'ble Home Minister to resolve their resentment. I am not in favour of giving them right to form their association. They should not be given right to form their association. But there should be a forum where they may express their grievances so that the police personnel may be satisfied....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your name is there in the list I shall call you later on. Please sit down.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir, I hail from Sitamarhi, Bihar. Sitamarhi is the tourist spot of national level importance. We have raised this issue many times in this House during different sessions of the Tenth Lok Sabha. We have drawn the attention of the Government towards this during question hour and zero hour as well but no attention has been paid towards this till date. Sitamarhi is the birth place of Jagat Janani Sita. People are coming here from every corner of the country, not only from Bihar but from other countries of the world including Maaritious, are visiting Sitamarhi.

Sir, through you I want to urge the Government that to include Sitamarhi in the tourist map of the country. It is necessary to develop tourism there. We had a meeting with the Minister of Tourism. Though he had assured us yet nothing has been done so far to develop tourism by setting up infrastructure there. Rail facility is not available there. Though funds have been provided for laying rail lines from Muzafferpur to Sitamarhi yet release of fund is being delayed. Similarly it is necessary to construct the broadgauge railway line from Darbhanga to Narkatiaganj. Construction of Sitamarhi-Patna national highway via Muzafferpur is also necessary.

I request the Government through you that we can protect our culture and can earn foreign exchange by developing tourism infrastructure there and the pace of development is also accelerated, so please issue directions the Central Government to include the historical place Sitamarhi in the tourist map of the country. And also kindly construct roads and railway lines there. Thank you

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Jabalpur is industrially a backward area. Britishers set-up many defence production units there from defence view points. Today 39 factories are running in the country out of which half a dozen are in Jabalpur. After independence, our Government opened a new factory in Jabalpur. In all 39 factories, recruitment is closed since 1984. Thousands of the employees have since retired, died and medically rejected by the board. But not a single employee has been taken in their place.

I have a request to the Central Government that the bank imposed on recruitment be lifted so that unemployed should get work and the decline in the defence production may be removed.

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT (Nandurbar) : Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Union Government towards the policy of Government of India to provide land to the villages likely to submerge under a project and Khargaon and Akulkula tehsils are the areas which have been affected by Sardar Sarovar Project. Now five tribals of Doob area is being given 10 hectares of land with Bawri and Borwell. The pump with the capacity of 7 hundred and fifty horse power for 10 hectares of land is not going to fully irrigate the land. Therefore, my humble request to Union Government is that the M.I. tank survey done there, the survey of three tanks is Valeri, Ambabari and Appapur, should be cleared by Forest and Environment Ministry. If it clears it early then the affected farmers may get the water for irrigation.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance to the prices of titanium dioxide. The Kerala Metals and Minerals Limited and the Travancore Titanium Products, the two major indigenous companies in Kerala, are now facing a severe crisis. This is due to the gross reduction of import duty on titanium dioxide during the last many years. Thousands of workers are engaged in these two major companies and they are also contributing crores of rupees to the public exchequer. It is seen that in the year 1993-94, the import duty on titanium dioxide was 85 per cent. In the year 1994-95, it had been reduced to 65 per cent and in the year 1995-96, it had been reduced to forty per cent. Now, in the 1996-97 Budget, the import duty on titanium dioxide has been reduced to forty per cent. As a consequence of this, the companies are forced to sell their products at less than the cost of production, benefiting multinational companies like Du-Pont in America. During the Budget discussion also, the hon. Minister of Finance had assured the House that the matter would be reviewed if it is adversely affecting the indigenous industry. But so far nothing has been done. So, I urge upon the Finance Minister to reconsider the issue and to review the position arising due to reduced import duty on titanium dioxide in order to save this industry and the workers also.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the subject which I am going to raise, I very well know what the Government will do or not do. I am pursuing this campaign for the last six months. I wish if you could listen to me even for two minutes, I shall be satisfied because in this regard I have lost faith completely in the Government.

There is a sugar mill in my areas which is a Government of India unit. Till last year four crores of rupees of farmers was outstanding against that mill, this year in the month of December, farmers are told that it